TRENDS

6/13/88 A3275-2

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, June 9, 1988 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended June 4 -- which included the Memorial Day holiday -- totaled 17.2 billion ton-miles, down 8.4 percent from the 18.7 billion carried in the non-holiday comparable week of 1987.

Cumulative volume for the first 22 weeks of 1988 was an estimated 412.6 billion ton-miles carried, up 7.1 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings originated in the week ended June 4 totaled 381,356, down 10.2 percent from the corresponding week of last year, and 12.6 percent below the preceding week. Compared with last year, carloadings originated were down 14.6 percent in the East, and 5.2 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of last year, 17 of the 20 major commodity groups decreased. Coal showed a loss of 19,000 cars (15.2 percent), grain decreased by 2,642 cars (8.9 percent) and primary forest products were down by 2,461 cars (22.3 percent). Eighteen of the 20 commodity groups decreased from the preceding week.

## Piggyback

Piggyback traffic for the non-holiday week ended May 28 totaled 110,969 trailers and/or containers, up 21.7 percent from the comparable week of 1987, which included the Memorial Day holiday.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 21 weeks of the year was 2,267,930 trailers and/or containers, up 5.9 percent from 1987.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 6/4/88:

| | Loadings in Week ended June 4, 1988 | | Change from Corresponding Week 1987 | | | Change from Preceding Week | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cars | | Cars | Percent | | Cars | Percent |
| Grain | 26,905 | D | 2,642 | 8.9 | D | 4,700 | 14.9 |
| Other farm products | 3,518 | D | 692 | 16.4 | D | 245 | 6.5 |
| Metallic ores | 18,764 | I | 247 | 1.3 | D | 871 | 4.4 |
| Coal | 106,125 | D | 19,000 | 15.2 | D | 14,182 | 11.8 |
| Crushed stone, gravel and sand | 15,854 | D | 640 | 3.9 | D | 2,912 | 15.5 |
| Nonmetallic minerals | 9,798 | D | 452 | 4.4 | D | 763 | 7.2 |
| Grain mill products | 9,629 | D | 1,324 | 12.1 | D | 1,632 | 14.5 |
| Food and kindred products | 9,746 | D | 1,343 | 12.1 | D | 1,599 | 14.1 |
| Primary forest products | 8,588 | D | 2,461 | 22.3 | D | 1,569 | 15.4 |
| Lumber and wood products except furniture | 6,829 | D | 1,490 | 17.9 | D | 1,737 | 20.3 |
| Pulp, paper and allied products | 12,755 | D | 137 | 1.1 | I | 103 | 0.8 |
| Chemicals and allied products | 23,952 | D | 2,163 | 8.3 | D | 2,650 | 10.0 |
| Petroleum products | 4,763 | D | 9 | 0.2 | D | 376 | 7.3 |
| Stone, clay and glass products | 9,986 | D | 1,682 | 14.4 | D | 1,947 | 16.3 |
| Coke | 5,429 | I | 367 | 7.3 | I | 94 | 1.8 |
| Metals and products | 10,340 | I | 1,400 | 15.7 | D | 1,091 | 9.5 |
| Motor vehicles and equipment | 18,906 | D | 1,721 | 8.3 | D | 3,220 | 14.6 |
| Waste and scrap materials | 8,094 | D | 584 | 6.7 | D | 1,778 | 18.0 |
| Forwarder and shipper association traffic | 2,186 | D | 577 | 20.9 | D | 409 | 15.8 |
| All other carloads | 69,189 | D | 8,620 | 11.1 | D | 13,274 | 16.1 |
| Total Cars Loaded | 381,356 | D | 43,523 | 10.2 | D | 54,758 | 12.6 |
| Corresponding week of 1987 | 424,879 | | | | | | |

| | 1988 | 1987 | % Change |
|---|---|---|---|
| Total Cars Loaded (22 weeks) | 9,206,127 | 8,679,344 | I 6.1 |
| Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions): | | | |
| 21 weeks ended May 28 | 395.4 | 366.4 | I 7.9 |
| Week ended June 4 | 17.2 | 18.7 | D 8.4 |
| 22 Weeks cumulative | 412.6 | 385.1 | I 7.1 |

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